

REMARKS

In this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 9, and added new claims 11-18. Accordingly, claims 1-18 are pending, with claims 1 and 10 in independent form.

Claim 9 has been amended to correct minor typographical errors.

New claims 11-18 have been added. Support for claims 11-18 is found, for example, in original claims 2-9.

Claims 11-18 each depend from claim 10. As explained in Applicants' reply to the Office Action of December 5, 2008, which was filed on April 6, 2009 and is incorporated herein, independent claim 10 is patentable over Sloan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,932,495, "Sloan"). At least by virtue of their dependence from claim 10, and for at least the same reasons as claim 10, new claims 11-18 are also therefore patentable over Sloan. Accordingly, new claims 11-18 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that the application be allowed.

Canceled claims, if any, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Any circumstance in which Applicants have: (a) addressed certain comments of the Examiner does not mean that Applicants concede other comments of the Examiner; (b) made arguments for the patentability of some claims does not mean that there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims and other claims; or (c) amended or canceled a claim does not mean that Applicants concede any of the Examiner's positions with respect to that claim or other claims.

No fees are believed to be due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 12406-0214US1.

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Respectfully submitted,

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